

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-20 OMB-01 IO-14 EB-11 SAJ-01 DRC-01

(ISO) W

----- 114302

R 090730Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 905

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 0835

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, TW

SUBJECT: ASST. SEC. INGERSOLL'S VISIT TO TAIPEI

REF: TAIPEI 7684

1. EMBASSY POUCHED ON FEB 1 DRAFT MEMCONS OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY INGERSOLL'S CALLS ON ROC SENIOR OFFICIALS, WHICH WE AGREED WITH HELBLE WOULD BE CLEARED AND DISSEMINATED BY DEPARTMENT. ADDITIONAL MEMCON AND PRESS WRAP-UPS SENT TO DESK IN POUCH LEAVING HERE FEBRUARY 11. ONLY TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGE WAS TAIPEI 0567, COVERING PORTION OF CALL ON PREMIER REGARDING JAPAN-ROC CIVIL AVIATION DELIBERATIONS.

2. ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S VISIT WAS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL. VISIT WENT AS OUTLINED REFTEL WITH KEY ADDITIONS OF CALL ON VICE PRESIDENT YEN, WORKING BREAKFAST WITH PRIM MINISTER (AT HIS REQUEST) IN ADDITION TO VISIT IN PREMIER'S OFFICE, AND WORKING BREAKFAST WITH MINISTERS OF FINANCE AND ECONOMY, AND GOVERNOR, CENTRAL BANK). ALL CALLS WERE STRAIGHT-FORWARD; ROC DID NOT PROBE
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CONTROVERSIAL US/ROC ISSUES-- FOCUSING MOSTLY ON EA AREA

INTERESTS AND ECONOMIC STABILIZATION MEASURES. FOREIGN MINISTER, HOWEVER, MADE SURE THAT ASS. SECRETARY RECOGNIZED ROC'S DIFFICULTIES WITH OUR CHINA POLICY. GENERALLY, ROC'S PURPOSE SEEMED TO BE TO CREATE FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF STABLE GOVERNMENT AND INSTITUTIONS, NOT WITHOUT CHALLENGES BUT COPING AND CARRYING ITS OWN WEIGHT. THERE WERE FREQUENT EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION FOR PAST AND ONGOING U.S. SUPPORT AND STRESS ON IMPORTANCE OF MAINTENANCE OF STRONG, FRIENDLY ROC/US RELATIONS. ASSISTANT SECRETARY CLEARLY ESTABLISHED WARM RAPPORT AND BASIS FOR TRUST WITH HIGHEST-LEVEL ROC OFFICIALS.

3. IN WEEK FOLLOWING ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S DEPARTURE, HIS VISIT HERE-- AND AT SUBSEQUENT STOPS-- WAS GIVEN CONSIDERABLE PRESS PLAY AND EDITORIAL COMMENT WHICH HAS BEEN REPORTED BY USINFO. ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S DEPARTURE STATEMENT (COPY POUCHED) WHICH HE READ BEFORE LARGE PRESS GATHERING AT AIRPORT AND BEFORE TV CAMERAS WAS GIVEN WIDE CIRCULATION WITH MOST COMMENTARY PLAYING UP HIS ASSURANCE OF MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIPS. AT CONCLUSION OF STATEMENT, PRESS WAS QUICK TO JUMP ON AND ASK FOR SPECIFICS RE SENTENCE (WHICH IN RETROSPECT WE WISH WE HAD NOT INCLUDED) READING, "SIMILARLY, AS YOU ALL KNOW, WE HAVE SOME DIFFERENCES OF VIEW IN THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL AREA". ASSISTANT SECRETARY DECLINED COMMENT EXCEPT TO SAY, HE "HAD COME TO LISTEN AND LEARN".
MCCONAUGHY

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